

## **Academy of Moore County Board of Directors Meeting October 21, 2020**

**Board Members Present at TAMC:** Thomas Beddow, Chair, Janet Lowry, David Nordloh, Allyson Schoen.  
**Participating by Phone:** Jim Busby, Dee Park, Bill Scholtes, Malinda Summey, Rebecca Wood. **Others Present at TAMC:** Crystal Bonville, Richard Schoen, Bill Van O'Linda, Dori Kenn,

Chairman Beddow called the meeting to order at 3:33. A quorum was present. After a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. Lowry made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Park, approved.

**Secretary:** Mrs. Lowry made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16 and 28, seconded by Mr. Nordloh, approved. Mrs. Lowry presented the Compensation Committee's recommendation for Christmas bonuses at a cost of \$65,400, made a motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Busby and approved. Mrs. Lowry made a motion to accept Mr. Weeks's resignation from the Board, Mr. Nordloh, seconded, approved. Several members expressed their deep appreciation for the great work Mr. Weeks has done for the school.

**Treasurer:** Mr. Busby reported an available cash balance of \$875,994.01 at the end of September, with no Moore County money yet received. Mr. Schoen said Moore County's first payment of about \$70,000 was received in October. Mrs. Schoen said TAMC's current enrollment is 456, but the state is providing support on the basis of 485 students. Mr. Busby reviewed the condensed budget. Mr. Nordloh asked where the escrowed money for the mortgage is reflected in the current financial statements. Mr. Busby will look into that.

**Proposed Expansion:** The contractor's attorney is preparing a letter showing that, as vice president, he has the authority to sign the contract. The closing is tentatively set for October 27 at 1 p.m. Mr. Busby made a motion to move forward with the loan, pending the Building Committee's final approval. Mr. Nordloh seconded, approved. First Citizens Bank as issuer of the loan on the construction will monitor work as it proceeds. Should mediation between the school and the contractor be necessary, a third party will be engaged.

**Director of Education:** Mrs. Schoen said the students' return to school full time went smoothly. Teachers to provide remote learning are in place at a cost of about \$15,000, with stipends for seven individuals ranging from \$60/day to a \$3,000 flat fee. Mr. Van O'Linda reported that the legal issue involving the 5<sup>th</sup> grade student has been settled.

Mr. Scholtes discussed the revised **Grievance Policy for Parents** which had been distributed to the Board in advance. Mrs. Wood made a motion to approve the policy, Mr. Scholtes seconded, approved.

Mr. Van O'Linda said it would be legal for the PTO to offer a stipend to the teacher who runs the Purse Bingo fund-raiser. Mr. Busby indicated that this person would be a contract employee and receive a 1099 to report this pay on her 1040 personal income tax return. All information needed for the school audit has been submitted.

Mrs. Park made a motion to invest in a telephone conferencing system to be installed in time for the November board meeting, seconded by Mrs. Wood and amended to limit costs to \$5,000; approved. Mrs. Schoen will check with the man who is installing a new sound system about this addition.

**Covid Update:** Mrs. Bonville said all children with sniffles are being treated as Covid suspect. A doctor's note is required for them to return to school, and their siblings are asked to stay at home. Mrs. Bonville is trying to arrange a drive through flu clinic for children. Teachers continue to require the children to wear masks, stress sanitation and clean their classrooms. Buses are running at reduced capacity, per state guidelines.

**Charter Renewal:** Mrs. Schoen said TAMC has begun the two-year process for renewal of its charter. The school is requesting a 10-year continuation. Mr. Beddow, Mr. Nordloh and Mr. Scholtes are working on documents to be submitted November 14.

**Old Business: ByLaws Revision** Mr. Scholtes discussed unresolved issues and asked for input from the board concerning the number of parents on the board and having all terms end on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The chairman allowed a teacher, Ms. Remington, speak on behalf of having a teacher on the Board. Mr. Van O'Linda indicated that such an arrangement is prohibited by North Carolina law. Mr. Scholtes has delivered to the secretary a resolution to adopt the ByLaws, hoping that this issue could be resolved by vote in November.

**Strategic Plan:** Mr. Beddow said the Strategic Plan must be updated. He will see what needs to be done and ask for assistance if needed.

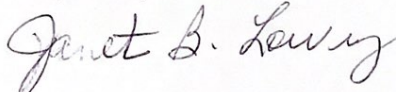
Mr. Beddow asked Mrs. Schoen to report on an incident at school yesterday (October 20), which resulted in a "soft" lock down. She and Mrs. Bonville indicated that police were called because a mother who is no longer married to the child's father wanted someone who was not on the pick-up list to pick up a child. The father came to pick up the child. This issue was resolved without incident. Mrs. Lowry said she would like to be informed when police are called to the school. Mr. Nordloh said he saw no reason for Board members to be provided with that information.

**New Business: Policy for Public Comment** Mr. Scholtes asked the board to review his draft concerning this policy prior to the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Beddow distributed a handout from the NC Coalition of Charter Schools of candidates for NC offices who support charter schools. It was agreed that making this handout available to TAMC parents was legal and appropriate.

Mrs. Park made a motion to adjourn the meeting about 5:25; Mr. Nordloh seconded, adjourned. The next regular meeting will be November 18 at 3:30

Respectfully Submitted,



Janet B. Lowry, Secretary